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S H O C H I K U

Kabuki Play

" I Z A Y O I S E I S H I N "

Third Act.

----- Scene of Byakuren's Principal Residence
at Yukinoshita

----- Scene of Arrest at the back of the house -----

To Be Presented By

At

From December to , '47.

C.C.D. J-2039



SYNOPSIS:

Both Seishin and Izayoi who had failed in committing a double suicide at the River Inase became wicked people and came to call themselves Oniazami Seikichi and O-sayo respectively.

As for O-sayo, although she had been looked after by Byakuren, she gradually became a cause of discord between Byakuren and his wife, so was turned out of the house.

Meanwhile, Seikichi met O-sayo again and called at Byakuren's house with her so as to blackmail Byakuren when to his great surprise Byakuren turned out to be in reality a notorious thief by the nickname of Shobe Odera and Seikichi's real elder brother.

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Dramatis Personae:

Oniazami Seishin;

Byakuren (in reality, Shobe Odera);

Man-servant Mokusuke (in reality, Tojuro Terazawa);

Night Buckwheat-noodle Dealer Jimpachi;

Donsichi Living In the Same Tenement-house;

Kanroku Living in the Same Tenement-house;

Numbers of Catchpoles;

Izayoi (now, Osayo);

Byakuren's wife O-fuji.

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The stage represents Byakuren's principal residence of Yukinoshita, Kamakura. At the door are seated Jimpachi, a night buckwheat-noodle dealer, with a paper-lantern having a bow-shaped handle placed before him, and behind him Donshichi and Kanroku living in the same tenement-house with a gong and a drum placed beside them.

With a song suitable for playing ball, the curtain rises.

Jimpachi: Excuse us.

Donshichi & Kanroku: Pardon us, pardon us.

Jin: Nobody has replied to us.

Mokusuke-dono seems to be away, as well.

Donshichi: Let's call at this house again later on, but inquire at another likely place right away.

Kan: That's a good idea indeed.

Three: Where on earth are you, O-tora?

(With music, from the stage passage come out O-sayo dressed as a good house wife and Seishin who now goes by the name of Oniazami Seikichi; both of them cover their cheeks with towels.)

Seikichi: Well, O-sayo, where's the house of Byakuren who had looked after you?

Sayo: Don't speak loudly.

It's over there.

Sei: Ha, what a ~~xxxx~~ nicely-built house! From the appearance of the front-door the master must be very wealthy.

Sayo: Anyway he's rolling in riches, I can assure you.

Sei: That's our aim.

Sayo: Well, at the outset, I'll go over there and pick a quarrel with themaster.

Sei: Shall I also go into the house with you?

Sayo: You wait for me at the gate; I'll take the initiative.

Sei: Oh, you've become an expert in this line, I guess.

Sayo: Don't flatter me.

(Both of them come into the main stage. Meanwhile, O-fuji is reading a book beside the paper-framed night-light; Mokusuke is taking a snooze.

O-sayo whispers something in Seikichi's ear and calls out at the door.)

Sayo: Well, excuse me, excuse me.

Moku: Alright. (Raises his voice and opens the door rubbing his eyes. O-sayo bends down and makes a bow. Mokusuke looks at her.)

Moku: Speaking of alms, today you shall have none. Tomorrow will be the day for alms, so come before the fourth time then.

Sayo: Oh, I haven't come here to ask for alms, but
I should like to see Master or Madam.

Moku: Would you like to see Master or Madam?
Don't talk nonsense.
You shall have no alms.
Get out of here, get out of here.

Sayo: Please don't say such a thing.

Moku: Oh, how troublesome!
I say, get out of here!
(Elbows O-sayo, who is lost in thought.)

Sayo: Oh, Mokusuke-don, don't treat me so roughly.

Moku: Don't call me Mokusuke-don. I have no
acquaintance among beggars.

Sayo: Don't pretend ignorance.
You recognize me, don't you?
(Takes the towel off her cheeks. Thereupon
Mokusuke gets shocked to see her.)

Moku: Oh, O-sayo-dono.
I say, Madam, O-sayo-dono has come.

Fuji: Has O-sayo come, eh?
(Rises to her feet.) Oh, I'm glad you've
called on us.

Now, now, step in, step in.

Sayo: Excuse me, Madam. Mada, I'm glad to see you
well as ever.

(O-sayo bows to her gently, steps in and
takes a seat on the left.)

Fuji: Oh, what's the matter with you?

I've been worried about you. We haven't known your whereabouts since we saw you last, so I've always talked about you with my husband.

Sayo: Thank you very much. After I went on a journey, I fell in the hands of a wicked man and had a lot of trouble.

Fuji: Ah, did you? No wonder you aren't what you used to be.

Moku: No wonder I mistook her for another woman.

Fuji: Then you were pregnant, but where did you give birth to a child?

Sayo: While I was in the heart of Mt. Hakone, I gave birth to a child, but I had very little milk, so I put the child out to nurse.

Fuji: Oh, good for you!
And was the child a boy or a girl?

Sayo: Well, it was a boy.

Fuji: Oh, congratulations!
When your father Seishinodono hears of his birth, he'll be very glad, I'm sure.
I should like to let him know it as soon as possible.

(Sayo is thoughtful.)

Sayo: I haven't yet seen my father since then, but does he call on you?

Moku: Yes, he does.

He is now the grave-guardian of the Temple for Paupers at Nagoshi.

Sayo: Is he? Thanks to you, I'm relieved to know his whereabouts. Now I think I've been unfaithful to him.

Fuji: Oh, you're still young, so you'd better be dutiful to him from now on.

Sayo: Thank you very much.
And where is Master tonight?

Fuji: Oh, he's now sleeping at ease in the inner room.

Sayo: Is he? Well, then, Madam, I've a favor to ask of you. Won't you please listen to me?

Fuji: Oh, don't stand on ceremony so much. Since you exchanged cups with me so as to become sisters, you're my younger sister while I'm your elder sister. Tell me anything frankly.

Sayo: Although I've come all the way to Kamakura, I've nobody except you to rely on here, so please allow me to stay even at a corner of the kitchen though I'm afraid you might think me a nuisance.

Fuji: Alright.
Since your father is living in the temple, he can't let you live with him in the temple as you're a woman.

You better stay in this house as you like as if it were your own house.

Sayo: Thank you for your kindness.

Fuji: However, when I think of your former life, I feel a little uneasy. Ha, ha, ha!

Sayo: Don't crack a joke, Madam. Excuse me, but won't you please let the other person stay here, as well?

Fuji: Do you mean your companion?

Sayo: That's right.

Fuji: My goodness!

Where is the person?

Sayo: Outdoors.

Fuji: Why didn't you let the person in?

Mokusuke, call the person in.

Moku: Certainly. (Goes out of the door and notices Seikichi.) Are you O-sayo-dono's companion?

Seishin: Yes, I am.

Moku: Oh, how poorly-dressed! Now, come right in.

Sei: Thank you. (Takes the towel off his cheeks and comes in. O-fuji gets startled to see him and feels uncanny.)

Fuji: Well, then, you are -----

Sei: Yes, I'm O-sayo's companion.

Fuji: Mokusuke, call Master.

Moku: Very well. (Stands up. Just then in the inner room-----)

Byakuren: Oh, you needn't come for me. I'll be there in a jiffy.

(From the inner room comes out Byakuren wearing a black hood and carrying a well-bucket shaped tobacco-tray with a pipe in it in his hand.)

Oh, O-sayo, have you come?

It's ages since I saw you last.

Sayo: Hullo, Master.

Glad to see you well as ever.

Byaku: I'm also glad to see you in good health.

(So saying, Byakuren takes a seat at a proper place.)

Sayo: Thank you very much. Just now Madam told me that my father calls on you often for advice.

Fuji: I say, Darling, just now O-sayo came and asked me to let her stay here, so I've wanted to let her do so, but she has such a companion with her. What do you say?

Moku: The fewer hangers-on, the χ better. I've a lot of trouble in boiling rice.

Byaku: Silence!

Don't interfere in our affairs.

(Turns to Seikichi thoughtfully.)

Ah, are you O-sayo's companion, then?

Sei: Yes. Then, are you the master of this house?

How do you do?

I'm glad to see you.

Byaku: Say, O-sayo, is this man your relative?

Sayo: Well, this man is my (Thinking) husband.

Byaku: Your husband, eh?

(Is in thought.)

Fuji: Well, then, O-sayo has taken a husband!

Moku: Ah, like husband like wife. A priest takes a
nun to wife.

Byaku: Anyway I'm glad you've got married.

Sei: Sir, you may think me a nuisance, but will you
please stay here together with my wife?

Byaku: Well, I may let you do so, but what is your name?

(Thereupon Seikichi is in thought.)

Sei: Since your lady and my wife Sayo are like sisters,
Sir, you and I are like brothers.

I'm like your younger brother, so I'll tell you
frankly. (Rolls up his right sleeve and shows
an Oniazami or a blessed thistle upon his arm.)

As you see, I've an Oniazami (a blessed thistle)
tattooed upon my arm and call myself Oniazami.

I used to be a priest by the name of Seishin, so
I also go by the nickname of Demoniac Priest.

My real name is Seikichi.

(Hearing his words, all of them get astonished.)

Byaku: Well, then, the priest Seishin with whom O-sayo had been in deep love is none other than the well-known Oniazami Seikichi-dono.

Sei: That's right.

Fuji: And what is your trade?

Sei: As I'm a gambler, I have no trade in particular. First of all, I commit blackmails, frauds, and robbery.

~~Ex~~ In order to become a thief practice must come first.

Now my wife O-sayo commits a theft at the bath-house.

(Sayo in a threatening voice.)

Sayo: Tut, tut! Don't say such a thing before my sister!

She gets anxious about me.

Sei: Indeed you're fortunate you've got such a good younger sister.

Moku: Well, then, are you both thieves? (Raises his voice.)

Sei: Oh, don't speak aloud. I'll admit we're thieves. If a policeman should hear you, I should be arrested right away. Then you would also be involved in the matter.

Moku: Anyway they're thieves.

Byaku: Here, here, Mokusuke, be silent!

Moku: Very well.

(Mokusuke keeps a sharp watch on Seikichi.

O-sayo is lost in thought.)

Sayo: Sis, will you please lend me your pipe, as
I want to have a smoke?

Fuji: Ah, tobacco? I think I've had my pipe here.
(Looks around.)

Sayo: Haven't you?

Then, lend me yours, Sir.

Byaku: Now, smoke! (Offers her the tobacco-tray
with the pipe in it. Osayo starts smoking
with it.)

Sayo: Sir, I used to smoke with your pipe every night.
I recall the past days.

(Offers Byakuren a lighted pipe.)

Sir, I'll give you a smoke.

Sei: Here, here, don't offer him a lighted pipe
in presence of your husband.

Don't do such a silly thing.

Sayo: I'll receive seven "ryo" and two "bu" from
him for you, so you should keep silent.

Sei: Sir, I owe you my life, so I've come here all the way to express my thanks to you. Now I recall I had the rashness of throwing myself into the River Inase together with this woman. Then she was fortunately caught by your net, Sir. Immediately you ransomed her at the brothel and looked after her father, as well. In exchange for your kindness, at the mistress' house of Hatsuse-Koji, every night you used to let her sit up with you, made believe that I had been dead, gave her a small amount of travelling expenses as consolation money so as to let her say mass for me and soothe her because of her relation with your wife, let her become a nun and turned her out of the house. It was very cruel of you to do so. I'll express my thanks to you. (Byakuren is lost in thought.)

Byaku: Oh, I won't receive your thanks from you. I don't know what O-sayo said to you, but she asked me to shave her head so as to say mass for you. She thought that you had been dead and wanted to remain faithful to you even after your death, so I thought her admirable though she had been a courtesan, granted her wishes,

ransomed her for a large sum of money, and let her leave here.

I don't know what you think of it, but I think I'm a very chivalrous man.

Sayo: Indeed you can say what you please.

Your words sound reasonable, though.

(O-fuji gets angry to hear her words.)

Fuji: Say, O-kiyo, none of your cheek! Not only what you shaved your head but also what I exchanged cups with you so as to become sisters was done at your father's request. You don't forget what I kindly made you my younger sister, do you?

Sayo: Excuse me, Sis, but don't say such a silly thing.

You forcibly let me shave my head so as to let me become a nun and say mass for him whom I thought had been dead.

You let me become your sister-in-promise, promised me that I could call on you whenever I was in need and turned me out of the house. You did so out of your jealousy, I should say. Owing to you, I came to lead a slovenly life and had a lot of trouble.

Although I'm a simpleton, I can't put up with your cynical words, Sis.

Fuji: Gracious goodness!

When did you come to have such a mind?

Why could I urge you to shave your head?

Sayo: Don't pretend ignorance.

You forced me to become a nun.

Fuji: Whatever you may say, I didn't force you to -----

Sayo: Oh, it's you that made me a nun.

(Sayo speaks in a loud voice.)

Sei: Don't make a noise. Be quiet! Otherwise you would be mistaken for a blackmailer or a swindler. Don't speak aloud.

Byaku: O-fuji, you also keep silent!

Sei: Well, Sis, please forgive her. She is so familiar with you that she quarreled with you about trifles. From now on we shall have to live with you, but we shan't be able to depend on you only for living. Oh, I'll act as doorkeeper.

Sayo: Indeed I was made to shave my head by her, so in compensation for it I hope you'll care for me. What do you say, Sir?

(Looks at Byakuren and is in thought.)

Oh, don't look fierce.

You might have grown out of love with me, but

when I was your concubine, I used to sit up with you every night.

Don't look so fierce, but smile. (Takes the towel off her shoulder and looks at Byakuren.)

Byaku: Hm, due to the former relations, I may let both of you stay here, but you've a cropped head, so now you aren't suitable for becoming a doorkeeper of a money-lender.

Once I made a promise with you, so I'll never break it.

When your hair becomes as long as any ordinary man, call on me again. Then I'll let you stay here.

Sei: Hem, don't say such an easy-going thing. Both of us are in a precarious condition, so even if we would like to become your hangers-on, we should be unable to wait till our hair gets long.

Sayo: Since both of us have got such antecedents, are you afraid of letting us stay with you?

You needn't be afraid so much. You see, I became her sister-in-promise, so I might let you involve in our matter. If you treat us coldly, I'll let you involve in our matter by all means.

Sei: Here, here, don't say such a silly thing.
Although we're fugitives from justice, we
would like to run off as far as we could.
This is our intention.
Please let us stay in this house.
Boss, if I'm now unsuitable for becoming a
door-keeper, till our hair gets long we'll
go on a journey, so please lend us some
money for travelling expenses.
(Seikichi is in deep thought. Byakuren
gesticulates.)

Byaku: Hm, are you going on a journey till you
hair gets long?
Although I can't give you a lot of money,
I'll give you travelling expenses with my
compliments instead of lending you the money.

Sayo: You see, she and I are sisters-in-promise,
Sir, so please give us a large amount of
money with your compliments.

Byaku: But how much do you want?

Sei: Well, we're going on an aimless journey, so
give us one hundred "ryo" as travelling
expenses with your compliments.

A paltry sum of money would be insufficient
for our travelling expenses.

Fuji & Moku: Eh? (Get startled.)

Byaku: Do you need only one hundred "ryo"?

Sei: Huh?

Byaku: Okay. O-fuji, bring here a hand-chest.

Fuji: Certainly. (Enters the inner room.

Mokusuke is lost in thought.)

Moku: Oh, one hundred "ryo for travelling
expenses?

How expensive!

Oh, I'm quite astonished.

(Just then O-fuji comes out of the inner room with a hand-chest. Byakuren unlocks the chest and takes a package of one hundred "ryo" out of it.)

Byaku: Now here is one hundred "ryo" as you wish.
(Offers the money to Seikichi, who gets startled to see it and exchanges glances with O-sayo.)

Sei: Oh, boy! (Takes up the money.
Seikichi and O-sayo seem to be pleased.
Seikichi happens to notice the seal of one hundred ryo worth's package and seems doubtful.)

Sei: Eek! How about the seal of this package?

Byaku: Huh? (Gets-shocked.)

Sei: This is the seal of the Gokurakuji Temple.
Where did you obtain this money?

Byaku: Well, I can't tell you about it.

Sei: Oh, it sounds interesting.
(Thoughtfully) Since you've got this sort of money, I won't take only one hundred "ryo" as travelling expenses.

Byaku: Then, how much do you want?

Sei: Give us three thousand "ryo".

Byaku: What? (Poses.)

Sei: When I was still a priest of the Gokurakuji Temple, one night a masked robber broke into the temple with a drawn sword and stole three thousand "ryo" which Lord Moritomo had offered to the temple. The thief's whereabouts was unknown, so on the false charge of theft I was arrested and to make matters worse my sins connected with women were brought to light. Thereupon I was expelled from Yatsu-Shichigo village.

The thief is my enemy. Up to today the guy's whereabouts has been unknown. Sir, even the local magistrate in charge of investigation doesn't know you're the very thief since you're wearing two swords and running a money-lending business in a fine house having the front-door with the family crest on it. (Says so thoughtfully. Bykuren is in deep thought.)

Sayo: My goodness! Well, then, Sir, did you steal three thousand "ryo" at the Gokurakuji Temple? We can't judge a man by his looks. No wonder you were on a spending spree. Alright, we're all brothers, sisters and companions. Men work at night while women do suitable works. Well, Sis, let's commit a theft at the bath-house together, shall we? (Is in thought. Meanwhile, Makusuke his temper.)

Moku: Hey, you ex-priest, for what evidence do you insist on saying that my master is a thief who stole three thousand "ryo" at some province?

Sei: Silence, you fool! I've never said such a thing without evidence.

Moku: What's the evidence, eh?

Sei: The evidence is that I sealed the reserved fund of three thousand "ryo" which Lord Moritomo had offered to the temple.

Others might mistake it for an illegible ready-made seal, but as I was in the temple, I can declare the three thousand "ryo" serves as a proof of it. Now that I've seen this seven "bu" or one "sun" long seal on the money, it's a good evidence, I can assure you. (Hearing his words, Mokusake seems to understand the circumstances, but intentionally draws near him.)

Moku: Don't tell such a lie.

You called my master a thief in connection with such a seal, but he'll be able to clear himself of the charge.

Alright, I'll arrest you and take you to the police station.

Sei: Sounds interesting. Arrest me if you can. If you should hand me over to the police, not only the married couple ~~xxxx~~ but also you would be linked together.

Fuji: Oh, what an abominable thing!

Moku: Hm, you'll smart for it.

(Draws close to Seikichi when Byakuren checks him.)

Byaku: Here, here, Mokusuke, whatever he may say, I've no guilty conscience, so I have nothing to fear.
You don't worry about me, but go to the inner room.

Moku: No, I won't go. If I should leave you here, they might do any harm to you.
(Says so, but Byakuren checks him.)

Byaku: Say, O-fuji, if you listen to our talk here, you'll worry about me, so go to the inner room together with Mokusuke.

Fuji: I can't leave you here alone.

Byaku: I say, go right away.
(Byakuren says strictly, so both of them are obliged to leave.)

Fuji: Mokusuke, come on!

Moku: Certainly. (Looks at Seikichi.)

What an audacious guy!

(With music, Mokusuke pays attention to Byakuren and Seikichi and thoughtfully leaves for the inner room together with O-fuji. With the sound of the bell announcing the time, Byakuren rises to his feet,

looks closely in the interior from the ship-curtain, looks thoughtfully at the right and takes a seat in the middle.)

Byaku: Seikichi, the mills of God grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly small.

Sei: What?

Byaku: You guessed right. I quickly heard of the reserve fund of three thousand "ryo" which Lord Yoritomo had offered to the Gokurakuji Temple, so that night I broke into the temple and stole the money.

Since then I committed many a theft at the temples from Iwa through Kazusa and Shimofusa to Mitachi. I went by the nickname of Shobe Odera and formerly a thief.

(Byakuren takes off his hood and shows his head. Both Seikichi and O-sayo are in thought.)

Sei: Well, then, are you the thief Shobe Odera of whom I've heard?

Sayo: Indeed I haven't known at all up to now that you were a thief, Sir.

Byaku: Well, I can't tell in public, but a thief can rarely succeed in stealing one thousand ryo at the same time to say nothing of three thousand "ryo".

The reupon + washed my hands of stealing and started a money-lending business with the money.

Since then I've been leading an honest life and slept at peace up to now, but Heaven's vengeance is slow, but sure. Now I shan't be able to stay in this place peacefully, so I'll go on a journey and become a thief again as before.

Now that I've confessed everything to you, I'll give you all the money at hand, two hundred or three hundred, left from the three thousand "ryo", so if you want to lead an honest life, copy me. (Takes two hundred "ryo" out of the hand-chest of offers the money!! together with the other package of money. Seikichi and U-sayo are in thought and exchange glances with each other.) Now get out of here with this money.

But if you aren't satisfied with my offer, both you and I must resign ourselves to fate.

Both you and + should have to be in prison and under examination together.

(Says thoughtfully. Both of them seem to be struck by his generosity.)

Sei:

O-sayo, did you hear him?

How generous he is that should give us all the money left three hundred "ryo"! Indeed he is free with his money.

I'm rather ashamed of my mean spirit.

After saying such a disagreeable thing as I wanted him to let me stay here together with O-sayo, I expected to receive half of one hundred "ryo" or at least twenty or thirty from him if I asked him to give us one hundred "ryo".

I've intended to extort such a paltry amount of money from him.

I'm no match for him in respect of character. Ah, I'm ashamed of myself.

Sayo:

It's I that am ashamed of myself.

Now that we've known he's also our pal, we can't go with this money for nothing.

Sei:

Oh, right you are! Just now I heard you say that you're going on a journey, so you need the money as your travelling expenses. I appreciate your kindness. (Takes up the money.) But I'll give you back the money. (Offers the money to Byakuren.)

Byaku: Oh, don't stand on ceremony. Even if I don't ~~xxxx~~ ~~xx~~ have such a small amount of money as two hundred or three hundred "ryo" during my journey, I'll be able to go anywhere if I do my work at any place.

Take this money with you. Once I gave you the money, so I won't withdraw it.

Sei: Won't you? But I, Seikichi, won't receive this money from you.

Byaku: Oh, don't say such a thing.

Sei: Now, I'll refuse to take it.

(Both of them refuse to take the money respectively. O-sayo is lost in thought.)

Sayo: We better receive one hundred "ryo" from him according to our promise with him and return all the rest to him. What do you say?

Byaku: Ah, you're a good judge, O-kiyo.

I'll take two hundred "ryo", so receive one hundred "ryo" without hesitation.

I won't ask you to thank me for it.

(Takes two hundred "ryo" and offers one hundred "ryo" to Seikichi.)

Sei: Well, then, I won't refuse to accept your kind offer: I'll take this. (Takes one hundred "ryo".)

Sayo: Now I'm glad I've settled your dispute by arbitration.

Sei: But I'm sorry to take one hundred "ryo" from you.

Byaku: Oh, don't say such a silly thing over and over again. Oh, if you have no receptacle, shall I give you a purse?
(Takes a purse out of the small cupboard. Seikichi is in thought.)

Sei: I don't need a purse, but I should like to have some receptacle.

Sayo: You'd better put the money in the belly-band --- in the bag for charms.

Sei: Oh, even a mere child knows it.
(Takes a bag for charms made of dark-blue cotton out of his pocket.)

Sayo: You should listen to my good advice.

Byaku: Indeed it's a good idea.

Sei: Don't talk nonsense! Keep silent.
(Takes charms out of it and scatters the charms on the stage.)

Sayo: How sacrilegious!
(Sayo picks up the charms. Meanwhile, Seikichi puts the money in the bag for charms. Byakuren notices the charms.)

Byaku: Seikichi, are you an adherent of the
Hokke sect?

Sei: Yeah, I'm an adherent of the Hokke sect
like my father.

Byaku: No wonder all the charms are those
of the Hokke sect. Most of them are from
Shimofusa, I think.

Sei: Yeah. I was born in Gyotoku as a fisherman's
son. Like my father I'm a strict believer
in the Hokke sect, so I long for
my home even in religion and most of the
charms are those in the vicinity.

Byaku: Hm, then, were you born in Gyotoku?
(Is lost in thought.)

Sei: When I was seven years old, both of
my parents died, so through the good
offices of my uncle in Hamakura, I had to enter
the priesthood and became a disciple of
the chief priest of the Gokurakuji Temple.
I once intended to become an eminent
priest.

Byaku: I was also born in Gyotoku and my
father was a fisherman, as well.
Now I understand both you and I are from
Gyotoku. What was your father's name?

Sei: Here, here is his name.
(Takes a piece of thick Japanese paper out of
of the scattered charms and opens it.)

Byaku: Seikichi, Fisherman Seiji of Gyotoku,
Shimofusa Province. Well, then, didn't
your father have a crescent-shaped scar on
his forehead?

Sei: Yeah, he had.
I was told that he received the scar on his
forehead when he fought with a man
at the inn of Owada.

Byaku: Well, then, you're my younger brother.

Sei and Sayo: Huh?

.(Both of them get shocked to hear his words.)

Sei and Sayo: He --- really?

Byaku: Ah, now I recall twenty years ago when
you're three years old I was spirited away;
I'm your elder brother Seitaro.

.(Is absorbed in thought.)

Sei: Well, then, are you my elder brother of whom
my dead mother spoke?

Sayo: What a coincidence!

Byaku: Although both U-sayo and I became brother
and sister in promise, you're my real brother.

Sei: brother, this is like a play.

.(The three are in deep thought.

Just then behind the drop-curtain on the stage-
passage the sound of a drum for arrest
is heard.)

Hei: Any word! What's the noise?

Byaku: I'm sure they're catchpoles.

(The reupon with Tojuro at the head,
numbers of catchpoles come out and surround
them.)

Catchpoles: Don't move.

(Byakuren notices Tojuro.)

Byaku: Ah, then, you must have been a spy
under the assumed name of man-servant Mokusuke.

Tojuro: That's right. Your past history was
uncertain, so I disguised myself as a man-servant
and spied on this house. I'm a government
official in charge of examination of
thieves and my name is Tojuro Terazawa.
Now you're under arrest for your wrongdoings.

Byaku: Now that I've shown my real character,
all of you shall die.

To: None of your cheek! Arrest him right away.

Catchpoles: Alright.

(The catchpoles strike at Byakuren with their
cudgels, so Byakuren draws his longer
sword and has a rough-tumble with them.
After all the catchpoles run into the interior.)

Tojuro strikes at Byakuren with
a chain; both of them have an interesting
rough-tumble with the chain and sword
respectively and pose.
Thereupon the stage-settings revolve.

ARREST AT THE BACK

The stage represents the back of the inner room in Byakuren's house.

Seikichi stands drawing a dagger and protecting O-sayo behind him, surrounded by the catchpoles.

With the sound of the drum, the stage-settings are placed suitably.

The catchpoles strike at Seikichi with the cudgels, so Seikichi cuts his way and has a rough-tumble with them. As for O-sayo, she thrusts the catchpoles on the face with the broom. After a while, with the sound of running feet, Byakuren comes out with the drawn sword and joins him in cutting the way through them. Thereupon the catchpoles run into the left. The three persons exchange glances with one another.

Sei: Elder Brother!

Byaku: Younger Brother, we've succeeded in our escape.

(Both of them wipe off the blood on their swords and sheathe the swords.)

Sayo: Well, then, right now ----.

Byaku: Take a different way ----

Sei: Okay.

(Just then two catchpoles strike at Byakuren and Seikichi, so they stun the catchpoles by striking the vital spots. Both Seikichi and O-sayo go straight to the stage passage.)

Meanwhile, Byakuren goes to the stage passage in the east. Just then Tojuro breaks down the middle window in front and shows the upper half of his body.)

Toju: I'm sorry I've failed in arresting them.

Byaku and Sei: Come on!

(Pick up pebbles and throw them at Tojuro, who steps back when one of the catchpoles is hit by the pebbles and the catchpoles flinch.)

Now is high time!

(With music and the sound of the bell announcing the time both Seikichi and O-sayo and Byakuren go into the stage passages respectively. Tojuro sees them off from the window.

----- Curtain -----